



General Assembly

January Session, 2001

Raised Bill No. 6748

LCO No. 3837

Referred to Committee on Select Committee on Children

Introduced by:
(KID)

***AN ACT CONCERNING A PRIMARY PREVENTION BUDGET AND A
STATE PREVENTION COUNCIL.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General
Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. (NEW) (a) As used in sections 1 to 5, inclusive, of this act:
- 2 (1) "Prevention" means policies and programs that (A) promote
3 health, safety and learning and reduce the likelihood of crime, violence,
4 substance abuse, illness, academic failure and other socially destructive
5 behavior, and (B) build competencies to ensure healthy, safe and
6 productive lives for the citizens of this state;
- 7 (2) "Prevention services" means the following programs or activities
8 directed to anticipate and meet specific needs: (A) Prevention
9 behavioral services, including, but not limited to, abuse or neglect,
10 crime and violence, and substance abuse; (B) prevention health services,
11 including, but not limited to, injury and suicide, chronic disease or
12 disabilities, nutrition, infectious disease, unhealthy lifestyles, multiple
13 health problems; and (C) preventive social and multiple-focused
14 services, including, but not limited to, academic success, child and
15 youth development, youth employment, parenting skills and family

16 support, teen pregnancy and family planning, homelessness and
17 housing-related issues;

18 (3) "Science-based prevention" means programs and services that
19 (A) have a strategy, design and implementation based on a rigorous
20 research foundation, (B) follow accepted methodologies, (C) are subject
21 to peer review, and (D) result in publication in respected academic
22 journals; and

23 (4) "Prevention impact statement" means a set of processes approved
24 by the General Assembly for use by state agencies to examine, in
25 advance, the effects or potential effects of any proposed action or
26 nonaction involving prevention services.

27 Sec. 2. (NEW) (a) There is established a State Prevention Council
28 consisting of the following members, or their designees: (1) The
29 Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management; (2) the
30 Commissioner of Social Services; (3) the Commissioner of Children and
31 Families; (4) the Commissioner of Public Health; (5) the Commissioner
32 of Mental Health and Addiction Services; (6) the Commissioner of
33 Education; (7) the Commissioner of Higher Education; (8) the Labor
34 Commissioner; and (9) such other members, or their designees, as the
35 Governor may appoint. The Secretary of the Office of Policy and
36 Management, or the secretary's designee, shall serve as chairperson of
37 the council.

38 (b) The State Prevention Council shall:

39 (1) Recommend a primary prevention budget, including prevention
40 services;

41 (2) Identify existing appropriations for prevention services and
42 identify science-based prevention that is cost-effective with proven
43 positive outcomes that promote health, community safety, learning and
44 family strength while reducing illness, crime, school failure and family
45 dysfunction;

46 (3) Generally increase state accountability by appropriating funding
47 only for prevention services known to improve social health of the
48 state; identify less effective interventions in violence reduction, illness,
49 mental health disorders, academic failure and drug and alcohol abuse
50 and recommend redeployment of existing state funding to more
51 effective prevention services;

52 (4) Recommend training and education initiatives on prevention for
53 professional development training programs, health systems and
54 community services;

55 (5) Reduce, through such preventive strategies, public spending on
56 more intensive, expensive treatment and problem-driven programs,
57 embedding the science of prevention and preventive services for youth
58 in all programs of state government;

59 (6) Strengthen the capacity of local communities, nonprofit youth-
60 serving networks, coalitions and parents to create prevention programs
61 and sustain services in their communities;

62 (7) Initiate realignment of existing and future public expenditures to
63 establish balance among state expenditures directed at prevention,
64 intervention and treatment services for youth;

65 (8) Elevate the science of prevention through investment in research-
66 tested programs and pilot projects, each evaluated and measured
67 quantitatively for effectiveness; and

68 (9) Encourage the direct involvement of the public, consumers,
69 parents, the business community and local government in partnership
70 with state government to promote prevention.

71 (c) The State Prevention Council, acting through the Office of Policy
72 and Management or any other state agency, governmental entity or the
73 private sector, may, within available appropriations, provide financial
74 assistance, lend staff or provide in-kind contribution to the Governor's
75 Partnership To Protect Connecticut's Workforce, Incorporated, for the

76 purposes of assisting the State Prevention Council in prevention
77 planning, training, technical assistance, initiating pilot or
78 demonstration projects, and such other assistance as the Office of
79 Policy and Management may decide.

80 (d) Not later than October 1, 2001, the State Prevention Council shall
81 identify, within each of the involved state agency budgets, all existing
82 appropriations for preventive services and submit a report on the
83 effectiveness of such preventive services to the joint standing
84 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
85 relating to appropriations.

86 (c) Not later than October 1, 2002, and biennially thereafter, the State
87 Prevention Council shall submit to the Office of Policy and
88 Management and to the joint standing committee of the General
89 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to appropriations, a
90 prevention budget developed within each agency identifying that
91 agency's preventive services. The prevention budget shall include
92 identified programs, initiatives, pilot projects, grants and contracts by
93 the Office of Policy and Management and the Departments of Social
94 Services, Children and Families, Public Health, Mental Health and
95 Addiction Services, Education and Higher Education and the Labor
96 Department.

97 (d) The Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, on behalf
98 of the Governor, shall biennially submit to the General Assembly a
99 comprehensive State-Wide Prevention Plan and Budget providing a
100 description of the total state strategy and expenditures on preventive
101 services. Such plan and budget shall describe the balance of program
102 spending among services in prevention, intervention and treatment, as
103 defined in section 1 of this act.

104 (e) Beginning July 1, 2004, the budget of each agency that is a
105 member of the State Prevention Council shall establish a goal for the
106 allocation of its total general and federal funds towards prevention
107 services, as defined in subsection (a) of section 1 of this act.

108 Sec. 3. (NEW) Prevention impact statements shall include, but need
109 not be limited to:

110 (1) A description of the proposed action;

111 (2) The consequences on policies, practices or services as a result of
112 the proposed action, including, but not limited to, direct and indirect
113 effects that might result during and subsequent to the proposed action;

114 (3) A cost and benefit analysis addressing the extent to which the
115 action will promote prevention policies or the extent to which
116 implementation would redirect resources away from prevention
117 policies as set forth by the State Prevention Council; and

118 (4) An analysis of short and long-term social and behavioral costs
119 and outcome benefits of the proposed action, specifically on the
120 promotion of health, safety and learning and the diminution of illness,
121 crime or school failure upon the target population or individuals for
122 which the action is intended.

123 Sec. 4 (NEW) (a) Beginning July 1, 2004, and annually thereafter,
124 each of the involved agencies of state government proposing new
125 programs or expansion of existing services shall submit a "Prevention
126 Impact Statement" to the Office of Policy and Management and the
127 General Assembly evaluating each such program in advance of
128 approval and implementation. Such impact statement shall use a format
129 and methodology adopted by the Office of Legislative Research in
130 cooperation with the Office of Policy and Management. Statements
131 shall be required of any proposed expenditures using state or federal
132 funds exceeding five hundred thousand dollars.

133 (b) The Office of Policy and Management shall develop, on or before
134 July 1, 2002, objective outcome performance and accountability
135 measures to guide prevention planning and to provide quantitative and
136 qualitative measures to evaluate such programs. The outcome
137 performance and accountability measures shall be flexible but shall

138 utilize uniform and consistent standards at a minimum to: (A) Measure
139 program efficacy and cost effectiveness; and (B) avoid duplication.

140 Sec. 5. (NEW) (a) There is established a Connecticut Prevention
141 Advisory Board, which shall be within the Office of Policy and
142 Management for administrative purposes only. The board shall be
143 composed of seven members appointed by the Governor, four members
144 appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives and four
145 members appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate. The
146 Governor shall appoint one of the members to serve as chairperson. No
147 member shall serve more than eight years within a twelve-year period.
148 Members shall include individuals with interest, expertise and direct
149 experience in prevention and preventive services and shall include
150 primary prevention experts from the fields of health, safety and
151 learning.

152 (b) The board, in collaboration with the State Prevention Council,
153 shall submit annually to the Governor and the General Assembly a
154 report delineating the adequacy of the Annual State Prevention Plan
155 and Budget and shall recommend such policy and or program
156 changes, innovations and improvements in preventive services as the
157 board deems necessary.

158 Sec. 6. This act shall take effect July 1, 2001.

Statement of Purpose:

To establish within the state appropriations process a prevention budget and to create a State Prevention Council that would coordinate and be responsible for identifying those programs and budget expenditures directed for prevention programs and recommend to the Office of Policy and Management a comprehensive state-wide prevention plan and budget providing a description of the total state strategy and expenditures on preventive services.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]